Employment Opportunities for Youths in North Eastern Regions

1147. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the allocation made by Government during the last three years to generate employment-opportunities for urban youths, both skilled and unskilled, in the North Eastern Region;

(b) the details of the achievements made in this regard; and

(c) whether any concrete efforts have been made so far by Government in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) To generate the employment opportunities for the urban poor, including urban youths, living below poverty line and to alleviate their poverty, a Centrally sponsored scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is being implemented in the country including the North Eastern Region. The funds released to the North Eastern States, including Sikkim, during last three years under SJSRY, are as under:—

Year	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Funds release (Rs. in lakhs)	221.37	319.44	1048.10

(b) Under SJSRY in the North Eastern States including Sikkim, so far 15,141 number of micro enterprises have been set up, 15,306 persons have been provided skill training and a total number of 24.41 lakh mandays employment has been generated.

(c) The employment strategy adopted in the Tenth Five Year Plan has suggested more emphasis on such sectors where the comparative advantage lies in labour intensive nature of production, and which would help in increasing the employment content of growth. To giver special emphasis on the North Eastern Region, 10% of the total budget of the Central Schemes have been earmarked for the North Eastern Region.